

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: *Dave Frederickson et al.*

Group No.: 1772

U.S. Serial No. 09/633,846

Examiner: Catherine A. Simone

Filed: August 7, 2000

For: POWDER COATED STRAP AND
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with U.S. Postal Service by First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

Attorney
Docket No: 12368 (6365/79201)

12/15/2002
Date Signature

RECEIVED
DEC 17 2002
1700 MAIL ROOM

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Box IDS - FEE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. Listed Documents are U.S. patents, foreign patents and/or published papers that are cited and discussed in the application, and are enclosed herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)(1) and (c)(2). Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e), Applicants hereby state that the items identified as U.S. Patent Nos. 4,100,883 to Lupinski et al., and 4,901,666 to Nagasaka et al., as well as the EPO and DE documents in the present Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not

more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. The remaining documents, namely U.S. Patent Nos. 3,019,126 to Bartholomew and 5,542,958 to Furukawa are being cited and filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2), and a check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the fee associated with the present submittal. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0920.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed

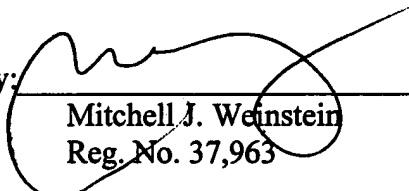
Filed: August 7, 2000

as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Mitchell J. Weinstein
Reg. No. 37,963

Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449;
Art (7 documents).

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 655-1500
Facsimile: (312) 655- 1501